NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

| PROJECT TITLE | Missmer Snell Valley prescribed burn | | |
|--------------------|--|--------|--------------------------------|
| PROJECT LOCATION | Two miles east of Butts Canyon Rd on Snell Valley Rd. The project is North of Pope Valley and well south of Middletown | COUNTY | Napa |
| LEAD AGENCY | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) | | |
| CONTACT Address | Konocti Conservation Camp 13044 State Hwy 29 Lower lake CA 95457 | PHONE | 707 994-2441 C 707 225-7578 |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of a 65-acre prescribed burn with ecological restoration objectives on the Land Trust of Napa County's 271-acre Missimer Snell Valley Preserve. The primary goal of the project is to restore an extensive area of serpentine alluvial meadow and serpentine wet meadow that has been heavily invaded by barb goat grass (*Aegilops triuncialis*) and a number of other exotic invasive plant species.

CAL FIRE Type 3 engines, fire crews, and a fire suppression helicopter will be used for implementation of the burn and will be present for all burning activities. Fire line preparation will consist of scraping a 4 feet wide line to bare mineral soil. An additional 4 feet of mowing grass for a total of 8 feet will be completed with string trimmers.

The 65 acres is grassland and is bisected by Snell Valley Co. Rd. road. There is no known threatened and endangered plant or animal species that will be negatively impacted in the project area. Archeological resources have been reviewed by archeologist Chuck Whatford and there are no concerns. All applicable burn permits issued from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will be obtained prior to commencement of the project.

| EXEMPTION STATUS | |
|--|--|
| Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (i) | |
| Statutory Exemption (state code section): | |
| Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268) | |
| Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a)) | |
| Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)) | |

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of Class 4 §15304 (i) Minor Alterations to Land.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Headquarters (Attention Environmental Coordinator), 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena CA 94574.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

JUN -5 2013

William E. Snyder, Deputy Director

Date

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

STATE CLEARING HOUSE